THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) In satellite mode, programmes of Metro channel are available throughout the country including Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal and can be received anywhere with the help of appropriate dish antenna system or through cable network. All the States and Union Territories of the country have at least one terrestrial transmitter for DD2 service, with the exception of U.Ts of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu. In the States of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal, Metro channel coverage is presently available through 19 transmitters in Uttar Pradesh and 2 in Uttaranchal. For further expansion of Metro channel coverage, 33 transmitter projects, including one in Uttar Pradesh, are presently under implementation.

Objectionable advertisements by satellite channels

2562. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has issued a notice in the month of February, 2003 to all the satellite channels to block objectionable advertisements;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of satellite channels on which these notices were slapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) In the month of February, 2003, show cause notices were issued to seven channels for telecasting objectionable advertisements.

Rate of entertainment tax for cinema halls

2563. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a uniform rate of entertainment tax for cinema halls throughout the country; and

(b) if not, the efforts Government have made in this regard in the results thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Entertainment Tax is a State subject and the rates vary from State to State.

(b) With the objective of all round development of film industry, State Governments were *inter-alia* requested to consider rationalising the rates of Entertainment Tax so that a uniform rate prevails in the country. However, no consensus was arrived at in the matter and during the 24th Conference of State and Union Territory Information Ministers held in New Delhi on 21.1.2001, it was decided to set up a Committee for Development of the Entertainment sector, to suggest the policy framework both at the Centre and in the States for realising the potential of the Entertainment Sector. As a result of the deliberations in this Committee, it has been decided to recommend that all States/Union Territory administrations fix a celing of 60% on entertainment tax. The recommendations of the Committee have been circulated to all States/Union Territory Administrations.

Magazines published in Hindi and English

†2564. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the magazines published by Government in Hindi and English alongwith the prices thereof and production cost of each magazine;

(b) the magazine which are making profits and those running in loss alongwith reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to discontinue the publication of magazines running in loss during last few years as per the prescribed policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.